TIMES-VIRGINIAN

In The Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt

Appomattox, Virginia

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Calvin H. Robinson — — Editor and Publisher

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UP ON COMMITTEE

It was a fortunate break for the Fourth Congressional District when its new Congressman, Watkins M. Abbitt, was appointed a member of the House Agriculture Committee. More than any other, that committee is influencial in pattering our economy. Many Virginian Congressmen have served many terms without securing an important a committee assignment.

But that was not all. There are members on this committee. By a series of Congressional replacements, Mr. Abbitt has advanced in less than three years from 27th in seniority on the committee, to the top half in that important category.

Making the most of opportunity, Congressman is now one of the most influencial members of the one committee on which he could best serve his district.

A few years ago, Virginia Congressmen had vast committee prestige. Clifton Woodrum was a wheelhorse of the Appropriations Committee. Otis Bland was a leader on Merchant Marine, Rivers and Harbors; Burch on Post Roads; Drewry second on Naval Affairs, etc. Then our state delegation fell upon lean years. Smith is well ranked on Rules. Now Abbitt is moving up on Agriculture. But outside of that the delegation is generally weak on its committee assignments.

Committee assignment often goes far to make or break a Congressman. Mr. Abbitt is in a choice spot.

CENSUS MISSES MANY

(Winchester Star)

Counting the nation's population is proving to be a bigger job than had been anticipated. Enumerators have found their task complicated by a single factor in American life. Too many people are never at home except, perhaps, to sleep a few hours in the middle of the night.

Some enumerators report many persons they have been unable to contact, although they have made repeated calls at all hours of the day and evening. Many failed to fill out and return slips left at homes where the residents cannot be found.

Unless it is possible under the rules to add those missed to the grand total the actual population of many communities, and the nation as well, will not be determined accurately. Many enumerators have found the work highly unprofitable. Being paid at the rate of seven cents a name and seven cents for each home listed, call backs have taken time and leg work, with small return.

When totals are announced and some cities come up short of their expectations, there will be complaints which will be heard as far as Washington.

EYE OPENER

(Malvina Lindsay in Washington Post)

Census Bureau statistics show that contrary to popular belief, Americans are marrying earlier than at any time since 1867. In 1890 the medium age of men for first marriage was 26.1, for women 22. In 1947 it was, respectively, 23.7 and 20.5. Now in this country one out of eight girls between 15 and 1-9 is married.

IT CAN'T HAPPEN HERE

(Washington Evening Star)

Considering its reputation for truth and veracity, a person is inclined to believe that he reads in The Wall Street Journal. But in one respect it is difficult to swallow the fabulous Hopalong Cassidy success story which appeared in The Journal a few days ago.

It can be accepted as true when The Journal reports that "Hoppy" this year will draw down better than a million dollars for himself from the 90 manufacturers who have been licensed to put his brand on the $50 million worth of goods they expect to sell before the year ends. It is not hard to believe that Hopalong roller skates, equipped with spurs and jewel-studded ankle straps, have taken the juvenile market by storm. No experienced parent will question the sales appeal of the Hopalong bike, with handle bars shaped like steer horns, or of Hopalong nevermiss six-gun.

It is a different matter, however, when The Journal reports that a single firm, within two months, has sold 800,000 bars of Hopalong Cassidy soap. It is possible, of course that this is a sly trick on the part of desperate parents. Hopelessly beaten in the endless battle against grimy hands and faces, they may have stooped low enough to sneak out and buy Hopalong's soap in the hope that junior might at least look at the label. But The Journal has gone too far if it is trying to make us believe that 800,000 juvenile cowpokes of either or both sexes have gone out and bought this soap themselves.

SPRINGTIME

(Earl Pickle in Early County, Ga. News)

I wish everybody could see South Georgia in the spring. People are inclined to think of the beautiful and enchanting as being some far-away place. But, to me, it isn't. Where can you go, for instance, and see a prettier piece of scenery than the crops growing beside the road from Blakely to Cuthbert? In one field there will be corn so green it looks almost black; in another there will be cotton, and in another peanuts planted in neatly curved rows, and another there is a vast field of oats awaiting the combine. The scent of magnolia blossoms permeates the air, and the haunting fragrance of gardenias and wild honeysuckle brings a feeling that forbids description. If a million people could view these fields of growing crops and experience the joy of the aroma of growing flowers, I dare say half of them would want to stay here to make their home.

Foreign policy advisory body is suggested.

Miss California title is won by ex-Kansan.

FROZEN FOODS

By Roy E. Moser, Jr., Fruit and Vegetable Processing Specialist, Extension Service, VPI

There's an old saying that "you can't get something for nothing". This applies to frozen foods too. Those fruits and vegetables we freeze can't be a bit better after they are frozen than they were when we harvested them. Since we want a good high quality frozen food, let's see what we can do now about assuring a supply of high-grade fruits and vegetables to freeze.

Some varieties do freeze better than others. But even with a good variety, success depends a lot on how we grow and handle the crop.

It is hardly necessary to talk about fertilizers and insecticides and their importance in producing high quality foods. But I believe that we should pay a little more attention to harvesting our crop. Maturity is a very important factor to consider with freezing foods. Undesirable qualities go hand in hand with both underripe and overripe fruits and vegetables. The underripe fruits and vegetables are small, lacking in color and flavor, and would not produce a good frozen product. Overripe foods are perhaps even worse. Often vegetables get tough, and fruits get mushy. They spoil rapidly when thawed.

It is generally true that the fruit that is best for eating out of hand is the best for freezing. Fruit should be tree-ripened to this degree, as the flavor is better than when it is picked green and held until ripe. Vegetables should be fully developed, but still tender and succulent. Use the same kind you cook for dinner.

Another point on harvesting. Handle your fruits and vegetables carefully. Do not bruise them. Bruised tissue is very susceptible to changes which make it unfit for freezing. The bruised spot turns brown, has an off-flavor, and has to be trimmed off.

Remember you can't make quality. Your frozen food can be no better than the food you freeze.

LAKE GORDON TO OPEN SOON

Citizens of the southern counties of central Virginia are showing great interest in the forthcoming opening of Lake Gordon, the 157-acre impoundment built by the Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries as the first of five bodies of public fishing water projected in the long-range program as a means of equalizing fishing opportunity for the anglers of the state. Lake Gordon will be open on June 20, and the creel limits will be the same as the limits for the state at large, except that not more than 15 pike and 10 each of bream and crappie and 15 of each other species of perch, provided that the total creel limit in the aggregate of all species of sunfish and perch shall be 20.

Yancey Gordon, cousin of the late E. C. Gordon, for whom this beautiful body of water was named, is caretaker and will provide an ample number of boats. Public and private boats in operation will number approximately 75. The lake is heavily stocked and the water has remained crystal clear despite heavy rains.

A great deal of interest has centered in the type of construction used in building the dam. Except for a narrow concrete core in the center, the dam is entirely of earth taken by heavy machinery from the bed of the pond. During construction, each layer of earth was tamped with rollers. But the most striking thing about the project is the wide earthen emergency spillway which will obviously take care of any flood which may occur in the future. Indications are that the dam will be stronger and stronger as the years go by.

At an early date, construction will start on the second pond in the program in Pittsylvania County, and choice of site already has been made for the third pond in Halifax County, projected for next year as the third in the series of impoundments.

Auto makers busy at research in transportation field.

Race cars kills two, injures four in family.

Appomattox is a growing town.

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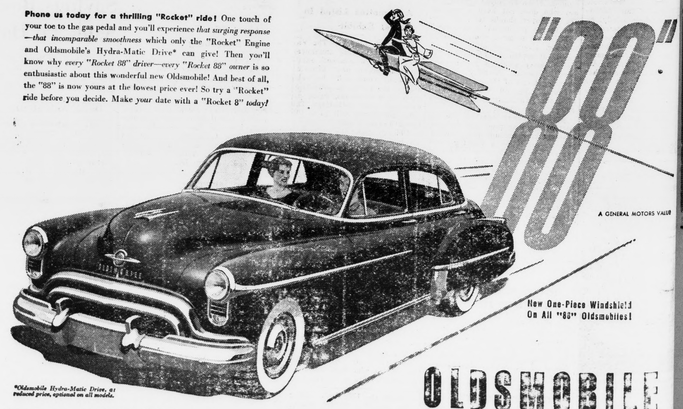

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Stonewall

Stonewall, June 13.- Mrs. Florence Carson was called to Lynchburg last week to see her sick sister, Mrs. Gregory.

Mr. and Mrs. O. R. Turnes and Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Brown spent last week on a fishing trip on the Eastern Shore.

Mrs. C. B. Carson had the youth choir of Bethel Church to meet in her home for practice on Thursday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Irby Wheeler and Mrs. Lee Wheeler spent the week-end in Roanoke with Mr. and Mrs. Joe Wheeler and other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Carson and Jessie Davidson joined the Howerton family for a picnic dinner at the Lloyd Howerton home last Sunday. It is owned by Mr. Layton Howerton, of South Carolina. He, and his sister, Miss Jean Howerton, are the only children living now.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Stephenson, Jr., of Portsmouth spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Chick and her sister, Mrs. Henry Beard and her family.

Mr. and Mrs. Walker Harding and family, of Lynchburg, spent Sunday with Miss Verna Harding.

Mrs. Parks Jennings is leaving today for Richmond to visit her sister, Mrs. Lucy Sisson.

Mr. and Mrs. Ken Smith and Anne Carson, of Lynchburg, spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Carson.

Mr. and Mrs. Tommie Davidson and children spent the week-end with her mother, Mrs. Frazier, at Eastburn.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Cyrus attended the revival at Reedy Springs Church last week. Rev. L. P. Brown is the pastor and he was assisted in the revival by the Rev. O. G. Burnette.

Mr. and Mrs. Howlette Drinkard and children: Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Caldwell, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Carson, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Beard and son, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Stephenson, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Jim Carson and Mrs. R. W. Franklin called to see Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Chick over the week-end.

The Rev. D. M. Spence preached a fine sermon at Bethel Church on Sunday at 11 A. M.

Richwood

Richwood, June 13.- "Indifference to your responsibilities is the parent of most of your troubles."

—Quoted.

Divine services at Central Baptist church Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Dean Pugh were the guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Woodall in Lynchburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Carey, of Lynchburg visited with Floyd Trent Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Paulett and children were the week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Harvey.

Mrs. John M. Clapp and daughter, of Richmond are spending some time with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Harvey.

Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Joy, Jr., of Richmond spent Sunday with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Fleshman and Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Joy, Sr.

Robert Pankey, of Washington, was the guest Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Carter Pankey.

Mrs. Henry Fleshman and Miss Marvis Wooldridge visited with Mrs. D. A. Pugh Monday afternoon.

Tom Guill and son, Duvall were in Lynchburg on business Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Williams and children were the dinner guests on Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. John Moore.

James E. Summers and children, and Mrs. Greener and Mr. Francis Martucci, of Hartford, Conn. were the week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Brown. Mr. Summers is Mrs. Brown's brother. Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Summers, of Chicago, were also visiting in the same home last week.

Rocks

Rocks, June 12.- Farmers are busy plowing corn, planting tobacco and cutting hay.

Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Elder spent a few days recently at Williamsburg with their daughter, Mrs. O. L. Payne.

Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Garrett, of Amherst spent last Sunday in the home of Mrs. W. F. Ranson.

Mrs. W. F. Ranson spent last week at Charlotte Court House with her daughter, Mrs. C. M. Evans.

Johnny Roach is a patient in the Lynchburg General Hospital.

The Seniors and Juniors of Pamplin went to Holliday Lake on a picnic last Monday.

Mrs. Allen Franklin started working in Jenkins' Store at Appomattox last Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Dickerson and children went to Lynchburg one day last week.

Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Martin and Donna Lee, of Greenbelt, Md. were visiting here recently.

Mrs. Holmsey Inge, Sr., of Appomattox got her hand caught in a washing machine recently. Several stitches were taken.

The Rocks Home Demonstration Club meeting was held with Mrs. John Ranson last Monday.

Mrs. Robert Roach spent a few days in Lynchburg last week with her son, Johnny.

Mr. and Mrs. Toby Inge, and Audrey Dale, and Mrs. D. R. Inge spent last week-end in Washington, D. C. with Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Atkinson.

Mrs. John Ranson spent last Tuesday at Southside Hospital with her sister, who was operated on Monday.

Donald Roach spent the week-end in Waynesboro.

Dr. and Mrs. Richard Lowe, of Tennessee and Mrs. Ruby Ray, of Roanoke, made a visit to see Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Roach recently.

Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Anderson and daughter, Mrs. E. M. Almond, and son, Hoskins, of Lynchburg, spent the week-end in Southwest Virginia with the former's brother, Fielding Anderson.

Mr. and Mrs. Holmsey Inge, Sr., of Appomattox, were visiting Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Ranson Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Ranson and children, of Bristol, Tennessee, are spending their vacation here.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Roach and children have been going to Lynchburg quite often to see Johnny, who is improving slowly.

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From where I sit ... *by* Joe Marsh

Oh—My Aching Feet!

Other night just as I was settling down with a book and a mellow glass of beer, the wife calls down, "Joe—I almost forgot—you and I are going over to the High School and take dancing lessons!"

Now, I can waltz with the best of them, so I put up a quiet struggle against going but it was no use. Turns out it was the class in square dancing. And from the look on some of the other men I judged I wasn't the only one there who had been taken by surprise!

Miss Williams and Curly Lawson taught us what to do with our feet, and before it was over, darn if I wasn't actually enjoying myself. Going back next week, too!

From where I sit, we sometimes get an idea into our head for or against something and then hang onto it for dear life. Whether it's square dancing, or the right to enjoy temperate beer or ale now and then, we owe it to ourselves as Americans to take an open-minded attitude — that's even after we make up our minds about it!

Joe Marsh

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